

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 05158 111341Z
ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 4371
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5158

USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M; IPS; IBS; INA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - SECRETARY'S MIDEAST VISIT

1. ALL PAPERS AUGUST 11 GIVE HEADLINE AND EDITORIAL
ATTENTION TO SECRETARY'S TALKS IN ISRAEL. TYPICAL
IS THAWRA'S LEAD: "VANCE ENDS TALKS WITH ZIONIST
LEADERS, DECLARES THAT WIDE GAP REMAINS ON SUB-
STANTIVE ISSUES."

2. IN BAATH, COLUMNIST AMID KHOULI RETURNS TO CRI-
TICISM OF WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL. HE ASSERTS: "OB-
VIOUSLY THIS (THE WORKING GROUP PLAN) IS, AMONG
OTHER THINGS, AN EFFORT TO EXCLUDE THE SOVIET UNION
FROM TAKING PART IN THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION."

3. TISHRINE'S JUBRAN KOURRIYEH STATES THAT
BOTH SYRIA AND SECRETARY VANCE, DESPITE SOME DIFFERENCES,
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HAVE SHOWN GOOD WILL IN THE SEARCH FOR A SETTLEMENT,
WHEREAS ISRAEL HAS THROWN UP OBSTACLES. KOURRIYEH
WRITES: "THE OBSTACLE ON THE ROAD TO PEACE TODAY AS IN
THE PAST IS ISRAEL. THIS FACT HAS BEEN RECONFIRMED IN
THE DECLARATIONS OF THE TWO TERRORISTS BEGIN AND
DAYAN. ISRAEL REJECTS: (1) THE GENEVA CONFERENCE;
(2) WITHDRAWAL TO THE 1967 LINES; (3) THE NATIONAL

STATE; (5) THE RETURN OF THE REFUGEES; (6) RECOGNITION OF THE PLO. THIS REJECTION IN EFFECT AMOUNTS TO REJECTION OF UN RESOLUTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION."
KEITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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